





Attorney Docket: Bookbinder 16-6-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Bookbinder et al.

Serial No:

09/447,077

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Title:

11/22/99

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METHODS FOR PROTECTING

SILICA-CONTAINING

ARTICLE AND INHIBITING BREAKS DURING DRAWING OF OPTICAL FIBER, AND SILICA-CONTAINING ARTICLE PROTECTED

AGAINST BREAK-INDUCING

PARTICULATES

Mail Stop: AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 1762

Examiner: W. Markham

RESPONSE

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4/7/04

SECOND RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action dated December 01, 2003 in the above-captioned application, and in further response to Examiner's Advisory Action of March 02, 2004, please enter the following Amendments and Remarks as follows:

Listing of the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.